wires to maintain the critical current is applied to the end of the junction. Even if an oxide superconducting wire having a large unit length can be obtained by connecting the wires, therefore, the critical current is reduced due to influence by the strain applied to the end of the junction of the wire and hence it is disadvantageously difficult for a practical superconducting apparatus formed by the long wire to attain a prescribed function.

On page 11, paragraph beginning at line 13, delete and replace as follows:

(13) As shown in Fig. 9, a junction between oxide superconducting wires 1 and 2 is partially or entirely coated with tape-like materials 42 consisting of polyimide, copper, silver or the like.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13, 15, 27 and 28.

14. (Amended) An oxide superconducting wire comprising:

a first oxide superconducting wire having an end portion;

a second oxide superconducting wire having an end portion; and

said first and second oxide wires each comprising superconducting filaments surrounded by a sheath;

a junction formed by superposing the end portions of said first and second oxide superconducting wires with each other without removing said sheath therefrom, wherein said junction includes a brazing filler metal interposed between superposed said end portions of said first and second oxide superconducting wires (1, 2).

16. (Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 14, wherein said oxide superconducting wires are tape-shaped wires having rectangular cross sections.

17. (Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 16, wherein said junction includes a junction formed by superposing wide surfaces of two said tape-shaped wires.

18. (Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said end portions is so worked that the width (W) of said at least one of said end portions is reduced toward the end.

19. The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 18, wherein said junction (L) includes an end portion having a V shape in plane.

20. (Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 18, wherein said junction (L) includes an end portion having an end surface inclined in the width direction across the widths of said tape-shaped wires.

21. (Amended) The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said end portions is so worked that the thicknesses of said at least one of said end portions is reduced toward the distal end thereof.

22. The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 15, wherein said oxide superconducting wires are round wires.

23. The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 15, wherein said junction is at least partially coated with a metal or an organic substance.

24. The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 23, wherein said junction is at least partially inserted into a material having an annular shape.

25. The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 14, wherein said oxide superconducting wires contain a bismuth oxide superconductor.

26. The oxide superconducting wire according to claim 25, wherein said bismuth oxide superconductor is a filament coated with a material containing silver.